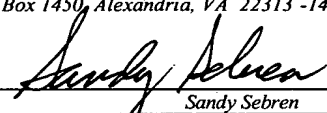


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	§	
Bhate et al.	§	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	§	
Serial No.: Unassigned	§	
	§	Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: March 31, 2004	§	
	§	
For: HYBRID SEAL AND SYSTEM AND	§	Atty. Docket: 135402 /YOD/SWA
METHOD INCORPORATING THE		(GERD:0087)
SAME		

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL	
NUMBER:	EV365158244 US
DATE OF DEPOSIT:	March 31, 2004
<i>Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, I hereby certify that I am personally depositing this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above in a sealed envelope (a) having the above - numbered Express Mail label and sufficient postage affixed, and (b) addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 -1450.</i>	
March 31, 2004 Date	 Sandy Sebrén

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(b)(1) AND 1.98**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and that the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, as an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b), or as a representation that no other possibly material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), exists.

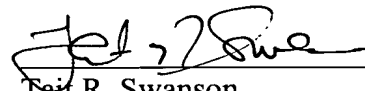
Furthermore, the references listed on the attached Form 1449 are not to be construed as an admission that these references qualify as prior art as to the above-

referenced application or any related application. Rather, these references are being presented for the Examiner's consideration without prejudice to the right to demonstrate that any of these references do not qualify as prior art should the Examiner choose to apply any of these references.

The following information is listed below in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98. Any explanation of non-English language documents contained in this Information Disclosure Statement is believed to constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of the listed reference as it is presently understood by the individual designated in § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the listed reference, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 31, 2004


Tait R. Swanson
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FLETCHER YODER
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Form PTO-1449 (modified) List of Patents and Publications For Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 135402 /YOD (GERD:0087)	SERIAL NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Bhate et al.	
	FILING DATE March 31, 2004	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INIT.	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	6,039,325	03/21/2000	Steinetz et al.	277	633	04/09/1998
	A2						
	A3						
	A4						
	A5						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INIT.	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION
	B1						
	B2						

OTHER ART (Author, Title, Journal, Volume, Pertinent Pages, & Date)

	C1	Patrick H. Dunlap, Jr.; Bruce M. Steinetz; Jeffrey J. DeMange; Shawn C. Taylor; Title: "TOWARD AN IMPROVED HYPERSONIC ENGINE SEAL"; AIAA-2003-4834; 39th AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference; July 21-23, 2003; P.P.1-19
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.